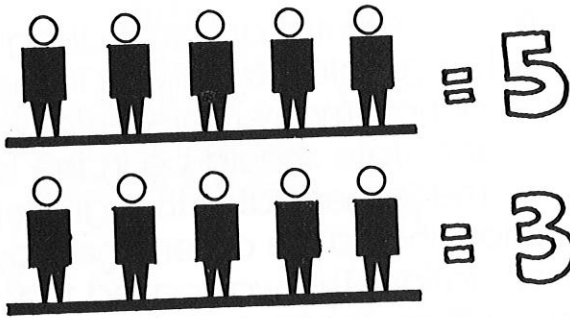


## THE THREE-FIFTHS COMPROMISE



The Northern states were opposed to slavery, and the Southern states were not. The Southern states wanted their slaves counted in the population when it came to the number of congressmen that were allowed in the House of Representatives. They did not want them counted when figuring a state's taxes

based on the number of its residents. The Northern states disagreed. The framers of the Constitution never used the words slave or slavery. They suggested that all free persons and three out of five of "all other persons" be counted in the population for the purposes of taxation and representation in Congress. This became known as the Three-fifths Compromise.

Give some thought to the questions below and then write your answers.

What does it mean to compromise? \_\_\_\_\_

Why were the Southern states willing to count every slave? \_\_\_\_\_

Why did the North want every slave to be counted? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was this compromise originally stated in the Constitution? \_\_\_\_\_

Explain how this compromise worked. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think it was a fair compromise? \_\_\_\_\_ Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_